

PSY 350 Abnormal Psychology

Spring 2008

Instructor: Monica Ulibarri, Ph.D.

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:00 – 3:45 and
by appointment

Class Time: 4:00 – 6:40 Wed.

Office: LS 24C

Room #:ENS-280

E-mail: mulibbari.phd@gmail.com

Schedule line #: 29540

Primary Teaching Assistant: Melinda
Schuricht

TA Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 2:00-3:00,
and by appointment

TA Office: LS 24C

TA E-mail: melinda@anscv.com

Additional Teaching Assistants:

Joel Kowalewski

kowalews@rohan.sdsu.edu

Jennifer Crowhurst

crowhurs@rohan.sdsu.edu

REQUIRED TEXT:

Nevid, J.S., Rathus, S.A., & Greene, B. (2006). *Abnormal Psychology in a Changing World* (6th edition). Prentice Hall.

CLICKERS:

What are Clickers?

Clickers are keypads which wirelessly transmit student input to a receiver connected to a computer used by an instructor. This is referred to as a “response system.” I will be using this type of response system to present questions interspersed throughout the lectures, and to do group activities. In addition, you will be taking the tests using your clickers.

THEREFORE, BUYING A CLICKER IS MANDATORY FOR THIS CLASS. CLASS PARTICIPATION, AND TESTS WILL BE DONE USING THE CLICKERS.

Other information about clickers/response systems at SDSU

In Summer 2006, SDSU standardized on the eInstruction CPS radio frequency (RF) response system after a selection process which included input from SDSU faculty and students, as well as from other universities with more experience with response systems. Use of the clickers has grown from 3000 students in 10 courses in the fall 2006 semester to 9500 students in 45 courses this semester alone. The SDSU Information Technology Services (ITS) has a useful website with more information and important links about the clickers: <http://clicker.sdsu.edu>. If you experience ANY trouble with your clicker or need help registering contact **eInstruction tech support** at **1-888-333-4988** or www.einstruction.com/Support, **Monday – Friday** from **5am-6pm**.

Course Description:

This course will provide an overview of abnormal psychology and psychopathology. We will examine: contemporary perspectives and classification of abnormal behavior; research methods and assessment; and symptomatology, causes, and treatment of major behavior disorders. A sampling of the specific topics will include: stress and health,

anxiety disorders, dissociative and somatoform disorders, mood disorders, substance abuse and dependence, eating disorders, gender and sexuality, psychotic disorders, personality disorders, abnormal behavior in childhood and adolescence, and abnormal psychology and the law.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Articulate what constitutes abnormal behavior
- Acquire basic vocabulary pertaining to abnormal psychology and mental disorders
- Identify symptoms of major disorders
- Classify disorders according to DSM-IV criteria
- Differentiate diagnoses of mental disorders.
- Understand and identify the various theoretical perspectives on origin and treatment of disorders
- Describe most up-to-date and appropriate treatment for various disorders

Course Requirements

Students are expected to have read the respective chapter before each class in order to be prepared to answer questions, and participate in class activities and discussions. STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING THEIR CLICKERS TO EVERY CLASS.

Class participation:

I will not start counting class participation until the 3rd week of class so that you have enough time register your clicker and allow for drop/adds.

Class participation will count for **10% of your grade**. Therefore it is very important. Class participation points will be obtained by answering questions with your clicker during class. Your responses from your clicker are automatically recorded in my class database. I will upload the points for each day on to Blackboard at the end of each class period. **You should monitor your points on Blackboard on a weekly basis to make sure everything is correct and your clicker is functioning properly.** Whether or not you get the answer correct will not affect your credit for the questions. You get points by simply responding to the questions asked throughout the lectures with your clicker. If you notice something wrong with your class participation points for a class session, you must notify me of this **within 1 week** of that class session. I will then look in to the problem to see if it can be rectified.

What to do if you forget to bring your clicker to class: If you forget to bring your clicker to class, you must let me or the T.A. know **immediately**. You must remain in class for the full session, and I will give you a written assignment at the end of class to make up for your missed class participation points (for that day only). **I will allow you to do this only once.** So the point is: Don't forget your clicker! You'll always need it.

Students are to be responsible for all assigned material. Lecture will not simply be a review of the text and may sometimes include outside materials, activities, and/or

examples that supplement the readings. The quality of our class meetings depends on student participation, so please take an active role in your education. You will be asked to participate by answering questions with your clickers, and you are welcome to voice your questions and comments in class on a regular basis.

Attendance:

If you have to miss class please inform me as soon as possible and I will let you make up the class participation points with a written assignment. **You must do this within 1 week of the missed class.**

Tests and Final Exam:

There will be three, non-cumulative tests throughout the semester, and one final. Please refer to the schedule for test and exam dates. The tests will cover both text and lecture material from the designated period. The final will be cumulative and cover all of the lectures and chapters from the semester. The tests and final exam will be worth 70 points each, and will consist of multiple choice questions. **Only the 3 best scores will be taken into account for the final grade. No make-up tests or exams will be given. If you miss a test, your grade will be based on the 2 remaining tests and the final exam. If you took the 3 tests, the final exam is optional.**

Grading:

Your final grade will be calculated by your performance on exams and class participation. Tests will account for 90% of your grade, and class participation will account for 10%. Letter grades will be assigned according to the standard grading scale. I round up from .5. For example, if you have an 89.5%, I would round up to 90% which is an A-. If you have an 89.44% that would remain 89% for a letter grade of B+.

	Percent of Final Grade
Tests and Final Exam	90%
Class Participation	10%
Total	100%

93% and above	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
Below 60%	F

Other Information

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating on examinations will result in disciplinary actions. Using someone's clicker other than your own or giving your clicker to another student to use is also a form of academic dishonesty and will result in disciplinary actions.

Specific Accommodations

Students who need accommodations of their disabilities should contact me privately to discuss specific accommodations for which they have received authorization. If you have a disability, but have not contacted Disabled Student Services at 619-594-6473, please do so before making an appointment to see me. Students should contact me as soon as possible (and certainly before the first exam).

Helpful Web Links

Blackboard (<https://blackboard.sdsu.edu>)

I will be using Blackboard to post grades, handouts, and all related course materials.

PowerPoint slides on the lectures will be posted on Blackboard by class time. I might also periodically make announcements about class through the Blackboard system. You should visit Blackboard at least once a week to check for any updates.

If you need help using Blackboard you can go to

<http://its.sdsu.edu/bbsupport/student/index.html>, or ask me or the TA.

Clicker Websites

SDSU Information Technology Services: <http://clicker.sdsu.edu>

eInstruction Website: www.einstruction.com

e-mail address for eInstruction tech support: techsupp@einstruction.com

Course Schedule*

	Date	Assignment
Week 1	January 23	Ch. 1 Introduction and Methods of Research
Week 2	January 30	Ch. 2 Contemporary Perspectives on Abnormal Behavior AND Ch. 4 Methods of Treatment
Week 3	February 6	Ch. 3 Classification and Assessment of Abnormal Behavior
Week 4	February 13	Ch. 8 Mood Disorders and Suicide
Week 5	February 20	TEST 1
Week 6	February 27	Ch. 5 Stress, Psychological Factors, and Health AND Ch. 7 Dissociative and Somatoform Disorders
Week 7	March 5	Ch. 6 Anxiety Disorders
Week 8	March 12	Ch. 9 Substance Abuse and Dependence
Week 9	March 19	Ch. 10 Eating Disorders, Obesity, and Sleep Disorders
Week 10	March 26	TEST 2
Week 11	April 2	SPRING BREAK
Week 12	April 9	Ch. 11 Disorders Involving Gender and Sexuality
Week 13	April 16	Ch. 12 Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders
Week 14	April 23	Ch. 13 Personality Disorders AND Ch. 16 Abnormal Psychology and the Law
Week 15	April 30	Ch. 14 Abnormal Behavior in Childhood and Adolescence
Week 16	May 7	TEST 3
Final	May 14 4:00-6:00	FINAL

*Note: Tentative Course Schedule. Subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.